RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2021-256

MEETING: May 11, 2021

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Marshall Long, District III Supervisor

RE: Letter of Support for MRCD Grant Application Phase II of the Current CAL FIRE Forest Health Grant 20

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:
Approve a Letter of Support for a Grant Application Submitted by the Mariposa County Resource Conservation District (MCRCD) for Phase II of the current CAL FIRE Forest Health Grant 20-FH-MMU-002; and Authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to Sign the Letter (Board Chair).

Mariposa County Resource Conservation District has requested a Letter of Support from the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors to include in their Grant Package.

If Grant is approved the Resource Conservation Districts will be able to Continue the fuels reduction work being done in Yosemite National Park; add fuels reduction in the communities of Wawona and Yosemite West (Wawona had the highest community risk rating in the 2021 CWPP (36.5) and Yosemite West was rated at high risk for wildfire (26)); Black Oak Reforestation Project in Yosemite Valley; and prescribed burns in Yosemite and around Wawona and Yosemite West

Please see the letter from the Mariposa County Resource Conservation District for additional information.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
The Board has routinely approved letters of support for issues that they believe will benefit the citizens of Mariposa County.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
Do not approve the letter. Individual Board members may write their own letters of support for the grant application which may not carry the weight of a letter from the entire Board.

ATTACHMENTS:
Phase II of the Current CAL FIRE Forest Health Grant 20-FH-MMU-002 (PDF)
RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Wayne Forsythe, District IV Supervisor
SECONDER: Rosemarie Smallcombe, District I Supervisor
AYES: Rosemarie Smallcombe, Marshall Long, Wayne Forsythe, Miles Menetrey
EXCUSED: Tom Sweeney
May 11, 2021

Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
Grants Management Unit
P.O. Box 944246
Sacramento, CA 94244-2460

Dear Grant Manager:
RE: 20-FH-MMU-002
Southern Sierra All Lands Restoration and Recovery Project -Mariposa County, Phase II

The Mariposa County Board of Supervisors is pleased to support the Mariposa County Resource Conservation District application for the Southern Sierra All Lands Restoration and Recovery Project (SSARR), Phase II. This project is part of the larger Southern Sierra All-Lands Restoration and Recovery Program which is a collaborative effort that includes multiple public and private land owners and managers as well as research that will aid in understanding and mitigating the effects of climate change on our forests.

The southern portion of the Sierra Nevada has been hard hit by the effects of climate change. Our lands have been impacted by multi-year extreme drought conditions, massive tree mortality, an increase in the number and severity of wildland fires, and destructive flooding and erosion attributable to changing weather patterns and a changing landscape. These challenges far exceed the resources available to address them.

Phase II of this project includes public and private lands and is vital to reduce carbon emissions by reducing the threat of high intensity wildfire. This is turn protects public health and safety and preserves the cornerstone of our local economy which is tourism to our national park and national forests.

These projects meet the objectives of the Climate Change Initiative Forest Health program for CAL FIRE, as well as accomplishing vital work to restore some of the most important forest lands and headwaters in the State of California.

The Southern Sierra All Lands Restoration and Recovery Program is an excellent example of protecting and preserving local resources in a collaborative way that provides multiple benefits.

Sincerely,

Marshall Long
Board of Supervisors Chair